

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, please insert the following sentence, after the title, but before the first sentence of the specification.

This application is a Divisional Application of 10/429,821, filed on May 6, 2003; which is a Divisional Application of 10/019,026, filed on December 26, 2001, now U.S. Patent 6,610,403, issued on August 26, 2003; which is a National Stage Application of International Application No. PCT/JP00/04127, filed on June 23, 2000.

On page 1, line 10, please replace the following heading as follows:

~~BACKGROUND ART~~BACKGROUND ART

On page 40, lines 11-15, please amend the Specification as follows:

In the above process, the thickness of the skin layer in a coagulated filament drawn from the first coagulation bath was 0.4 μm . ~~The monofilament exhibited a dry strength of 2.4 cN/dtex and a dry elongation of 45 %, and the staple fiber exhibited good luster and hand feeling.~~ The monofilament exhibited a dry strength of 2.4 cN/dtex, a dry elongation of 45%. However, luster and hand feel of the staple fiber was poor.